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ONR-1

PERCEPTIONS OF THE DIVISION OF

HOUSEWORK AND CHILDCARE

AND MARITAL SATISFACTION.

The Impact of Family Structure on the Structure of work.

Sara Yogev
Research Associate
Center for Urban Affairs
and Policy Research
Northwestern University
2040 Sheridan Road
Evanston, Illinois 60201

Jeanne Brett
Professor
Kellogg Graduate School of
Management
Northwestern University
3-186 Leverone Building
Evanston, Illinois 60201

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#### Abstract

Dual earner couples (136) and housewives couples (103) were studied. The focus was on the relationship between marital satisfaction and satisfaction with housework and childcare arrangements, doing own share of housework and childcare and perceiving spouse as doing his/her share of housework and childcare. Analysis was done at both individual and couple levels. At both levels of analysis, satisfaction with housework and childcare arrangements and perceiving spouse as doing his/her share of housework and childcare predict marital satisfaction. None of the traditional variables: income, family stage, wife's employement status and sex predict marital satisfaction.

Perceptions of own contribution to housework and childcare are not correlated to marital satisfaction among men, but, women who are satisfied with their marriage perceive themselves as doing less than their share of family work. In all three couples' patterns (one in dual earners and two in housewives couples) the perception which distinguishes between spouses who are satisfied with marriage and those who are not is that the other spouse is doing his/her share of family work.

# Perceptions of the Division of Housework and Childcare and Marital Satisfaction

The literature investigating the impact of women's employment on family life has two distinct foci: 1) marital satisfaction and happiness and 2) the division of housework and childcare. These two lines of research run parallel to each other in the marriage and family literature but there is little theorizing and no empirical work on the relationships between marital satisfaction and the division of housework and childcare. This paper hypothesizes that perceptions of the division of housework and childcare predicts marital satisfaction regardless of whether or not the wife is employed. More specifically, we hypothesize that perceptions of an equitable distribution of housework and childcare are related to satisfaction with housework and childcare arrangements and marital satisfaction. This hypothesis, if supported empirically, can explain much of the controversial findings about the effect of women's employment on marital satisfaction and the effect of women's employment on the division of housework and childcare.

Yogev (1982a) shows that the literature on marital satisfaction falls into two patterns: the pre-1970 research typically concludes that marital dissatisfaction and conflict is higher when the wife is working than when she is not. (Gover, 1963; Axelson, 1963; Blood, 1963; Nye, 1963; Blood & Wolfe, 1960). The post-1970 research finds either no significant differences in satisfaction between traditional and working spouses (Staines, Pleck, Shepard, & O'Conner, 1978; Campbell, Converse, & Rodgers, 1976) or that employed women are

happier with their marriages than housewives (Birnbaum, 1971; Arnott, 1972, Safilios-Rothschild, 1970). Yogev (1982a) points out that underlying the post-1970 research is a contemporary view of marriage and family which recognizes the changes in domestic life and normative role behavior of men and women which have occurred.

The interpretation of the impact of women's employment on the distribution of housework and childcare is also controversial. Some studies show that when wives enter the workforce, husbands increase their participation in housework and childcare (Dizard, 1968; Garland, 1972; Miller, 1972; Rapaport and Rapaport, 1969;1971). Other studies show extensive interchangeability of tasks (Holmstrom, 1972; Bailyn, 1970; Bahr, 1974; Young and Wilmott, 1973).

In contrast, is substantial research showing that family tasks are strongly segregated by sex, regardless of the wife's employment status, (Pleck, 1979; Weingarten, 1978). Furthermore, working wives do a disproportionate share of childcare (Bryson, Bryson and Johnson, 1978) and housework (Paloma and Garland, 1971). The exceptional situations in which the wife is not solely responsible for the housework occur when the husband has been socialized by egalitarian sex role ideology (Perrucci, Potter & Rhoads, 1978) or when income is high and the couple can afford to hire help and does so (Safilios-Rothchild, 1970). The overall notion is that women still bear the lion share of housework and childcare even when they are employed.

The controversial nature of the research findings in both the literature on marital satisfaction and the division of housework and childcare suggests that a woman's employment status per se is neither

a major factor affecting marital satisfaction nor a major factor affecting the division of housework and childcare. The patterns of marital satisfaction and the division of housework and childcare within groups of traditional and dual-earner couples are far too complex for this to be true.

We propose that satisfaction with the housework and childcare arrangements, perceptions of both husband and wife that each is doing his/her own fair share of the housework and childcare, and perceptions of both husband and wife that the other is doing his/her fair share predict marital satisfaction. When both spouses hold these perceptions, neither feels exploited and other things being equal, each should be satisfied with the arrangements and with the marriage. We believe this hypothesis applies to both traditional and dual-earner couples. While the actual division of housework and childcare may vary greatly between traditional and dual-earner couples, so long as each spouse perceives that the division is equitable and is satisfied with it, martial satisfaction should be high.

Our hypothesis is consistent with the observations of several marital and family therapists who have been working with dual-career couples (Price-Bonham and Murphy, 1980; Rice, 1979, Yogev, 1983).

They report that sharing of family work is one of the critical issues these families face. They also find a strong relationship between marital satisfaction and the successful resolution of the division of housework and childcare. We believe that these issues are important not only to dual-career couples who are in therapy but to all couples—dual-earner as well as housewives couples.

#### Design of the Study

Model Specification

The research on marital satisfaction and the division of housework and childcare tends to focus on one predictor variable per study. For example, the numerous studies cited previously correlating wife's employment status and marital satisfaction and division of housework and childcare. In addition, several studies have found a curvilinear relationship between marital satisfaction and family stage, with the lowest levels of satisfaction in mid life because of strains of careers and parenting and higher satisfaction in the first years of marriage, before children, and again after children have left home (Riley & Spreitzer, 1974; Rollins & Cannon, 1974; Spanier, Lewis & Coles, 1975). Marriage has also been found to be more important to women than to men (Lee, 1978). Other research shows that wives make a bigger ego investment in their marital relationships than their husbands (Gluck, Dannefer & Milea, 1980). Finally, as previously cited division of housework and childcare has been found to be associated with income (Safilios-Rothschild, 1970). This focus on one predictor variable at a time precludes inferences being drawn about the unique contribution of the predictor variable being studied over and above other variables. In order to be able to draw inferences about the unique contribution of perceptions of the distribution of housework and childcare to the prediction of marital satisfaction, we have included all these traditional predictors of marital satisfaction and distribution of housework and childcare: wife's employment status, family stage, sex and family income in our study.

Level of Analysis

The research on marital satisfaction and the division of housework and childcare focuses on the individual, e.g. contrasting the marital satisfaction of men whose wives are employed versus husbands of housewives. Consistent with the previous research, we initially test our hypothesis at the individual level. However, a couple is a dynamic unit and it is possible to have couples in which both are highly satisfied or couples in which only one spouse is highly satisfied while the other is less satisfied. Couples in which both spouses are satisfied or both dissatisfied may or may not be the norm among employed couples or housewife couples. In a departure from previous research we have extended our hypothesis from the individual level of analysis to analysis at the level of the married couple. We propose that there are significant patterns of relationships between satisfaction with and perceptions of the distribution of housework and childcare and marital satisfaction for both employed and housewife couples. We have no a priori hypothesis about what these patterns will be, e.g. both high or low, one high one low, etc.

#### Method

Sample

Data were collected from a sample of male and female employees of a large midwestern high technology organization and their spouses. The sample was selected in the following way. All Chicago area employees received a mailing which included a letter from the firm's president encouraging employees to cooperate with a university study of worklife and family life and a letter from the researchers. The researchers' letter stated that married couples with children living

at home were being sought for the study. Couples interested in participating were asked to return a postcard to the researchers. Approximately 650 postcards were returned. From this group, 376 families were considered eligible for the study. Eligibility requirements included: married and living together; either both spouses are employed, or if only one spouse is employed it is the husband; children living in the home under the age of 18; no member of the immediate family for whom the adults in the household provide daily care or have ongoing responsibility who suffers from a chronic disease, impairment or handicap. Childless couples (177), couples with a sick/handicapped family member (67), and 31 couples who were not married or husband was unemployed were excluded.

Identical questionnaires, one for the husband, one for the wife, were sent to each of the 376 eligible couples. The response rate was 64 percent. The resulting file consists of 239 couples. In 136 of these couples, both spouses are employed and in 103 only the husband is employed. The analysis sample is slightly smaller due to missing data on some items.

The demographic characteristics of the sample are as follows:

The average male is between 36 and 40 years old and does not have a college degree. He is working full time, earning between \$16,000-\$30,000 per year and has been in the workforce between 16 and 20 years. Twelve percent of the males hold blue collar occupations, 30 percent are managers and 58 percent hold other white collar jobs. The average female in the sample is between 31 and 35 years old, and is at least a high school graduate. Forty-three percent of these women are not working, 19 percent are working less than full time and

38 percent are working full time. Average annual earnings for the employed women are between \$11,000 and \$15,000.

#### Measures

Marital satisfaction was measured by the dyadic satisfaction scale published by Spanier (1976). In this study, the dyadic satisfaction mean was 40.99, standard deviation 5.69 on a range from 10-50, with coefficient alpha of .87.

Perceptions of share of housework and childcare were measured by asking each spouse two questions about own share:

With regard to childcare, do you feel you are doing:
With regard to housework, do you feel you are doing:
Answers: 1) much less than your share; 2) less than your share; 3) your share 4) more than your share; 5) much more than your share.

And two questions about spouse's share:

With regard to childcare, do you feel your spouse is doing:
With regard to housework, do you feel your spouse is doing:
Answers: 1) much less than his/her share; 2) less than
his/her share; 3) his/her share; 4) more than his/her share;
5) much more than his/her share.

Satisfaction with housework and childcare arrangement was measured by two separate questions on a 5 point Likert-type scale, ranging from very satisfied to very dissatisfied.

Family stage, as suggested by Lansing and Kish (1957), Duvall (1957), Rodgers (1964), was measured by categorizing the family in one

of the following groups based on the age of the youngest child.

1. 0-12 months

- 4. 6 years 1 month 12 years
- 2. 1 year 1 month 3 years 5. 12 years 1 month 18 years
- 3. 3 years 1 month 6 years 6. 18 years of more

Family earned income was measured by adding together husband and wife's earned income for employed couples and using husband's income in housewife couples.

#### Analysis

At the individual level data were analyzed using step-wise multiple regression. At the couple level, canonical correlation was used. Canonical correlation analysis is a model which represents the relationship between two sets of variables as n correlations between n factors or linear combinations of the first set and n factors or linear combinations of the second set, with all other correlations among factors held to zero (Cooley and Lohnes, 1971). In this study interpretation is based on the correlations of the variables in each set with the n factors or linear combinations corresponding to each subsequent canonical correlation. These are commonly called structure correlations.

While, as Cooley and Lohnes (1971;176) point out, "The canonical model appears at first to be a complicated way of experiencing the relationship between two measurement batteries. In fact, it is the simplest analytic model that can begin to do justice to this difficult problem of scientific generalization". In this study, the canonical model has the additional feature of allowing us to explore fully the patterns of marital satisfaction and perceptions of the distribution of housework and childcare that are in our sample.

#### Results

Table 1 presents the correlations between the independent variables and marital satisfaction for the total sample and for each of the four subsamples: husbands of employed wives, employed wives, husbands of housewives, housewives. While none of the traditional predictors of marital satisfaction are significantly correlated with marital satisfaction, most of the correlations between marital satisfaction and satisfaction with and perceptions of the distribution of housework and childcare are significant. Marital satisfaction is significantly correlated with satisfaction with the housework arrangement in all four subsamples. Marital satisfaction is significantly correlated with arrangement for childcare in the subsamples of employed men and women. Housewives who are satisfied with their marriages rate themselves as doing less than their share of housework. Employed women who are satisfied with their marriages rate themselves as doing less than their share of childcare. There are no significant correlations between ratings of own share of housework and childcare and marital satisfaction for men. There are also significant correlations between marital satisfaction and perceiving that one's spouse is doing his/her share of housework and/or childcare in all four groups.

Tables 2 and 3 present the results of the step-wise regressions for the total sample and the four subsamples. In all the analyses, the four traditional predictors of marital satisfaction: family stage, wife employed, sex, family income, were entered together as the first step, followed by the two measures of satisfaction with the

arrangement for housework and childcare as the second step, followed by the four perceptions of own and spouse's share of housework and childcare as the third step. In the subsample analyses, sex and wife's employment status dropped out of the equations.

In no analysis did the traditional variable significantly predict marital satisfaction. For working couples, but not housewife couples, entering satisfaction with the arrangement for housework and/or childcare resulted in a significant prediction. In all four sub groups and the total sample perceptions of the distribution of housework and childcare added significantly to the prediction of marital satisfaction.

Table 3 presents the beta weights associated with the third step analysis. Among men with working wives, perceptions about housework and childcare do not add to the predictability of marital satisfaction over and above satisfaction with the arrangements. This is not true for any other group. Perceptions of share are particularly important predictors of satisfaction among employed women. These women think that they are not doing their share of childcare, but that they are doing their share of the housework, and so are their husbands.

The perception which distinguishes satisfied husbands of housewives from those who are dissatisfied is that the wife is doing more than her share of the housework. Those men who are dissatisfied with their marriages believe that their wives are not doing their fair share of the housework. Finally, housewives who are satisfied with their marriages believe they are doing less than their share of the housework and that their husbands are doing more than their share of the childcare.

Tables 4 and 5 present the results at the couples level of analysis. Here we distinguish satisfied couples from less satisfied ones. Table 4 presents the within spouse and between spouse correlations for marital satisfaction and satisfaction with housework and childcare and perceptions of own and spouse's share of housework and childcare. The correlations in this table are a little different from those in Table 1 because the sample is limited to couples with complete data. For working couples, the correlation between his and her marital satisfaction is .74 (p<.01); for housewife couples the correlation is .58 (p<.01). This table hints of a pattern that becomes clear in the canonical analysis in Table 5; namely, that there is more mutuality of feelings between spouses when both are employed than when the wife is not employed. Among dual-earner couples, husband's satisfaction with housework and childcare predicts the wife's marital satisfaction almost as well as his own marital satisfaction. Likewise, employed wives' satisfaction with arrangements for housework and childcare, as well as perceptions of husband's sharing of housework and childcare responsibilities, predict his marital satisfaction almost as well as these variables predict her own marital satisfaction. These crossover patterns do not repeat among the housewife couples. While satisfaction with arrangements and perceptions of equity with housework and childcare predict own marital satisfaction, these variables do not in general predict the spouse's marital satisfaction among housewife couples.

The canonical correlations presented at the bottom of Table 5 show that there are significant patterns of couples' marital satisfaction which are related to perceptions of division of housework

and childcare and satisfaction with present arrangement for housework and childcare. One significant pattern accounts for 38 percent of employed couples' marital satisfaction. Two significant patterns, together account for 35 percent of housewife couples' marital satisfaction. The structure correlations in Table 5 show that somewhat different factors predict marital satisfaction among employed couples than housewife couples.

Among dual-earner couples the significant pattern is dominated by both spouses having high marital satisfaction (husbands .92, wives .96), i.e. when he is satisfied with the marriage she is too and vice versa. The pattern has the following characteristics: both husbands and wives are satisfied with their present arrangement for housework and childcare, wife believes husband is doing his share and even more than his share of both housework and childcare, while she perceives herself as doing less than her share of childcare and marginally less than her share of housework. Thus, when dual-earner marriages are satisfactory, she is not happy with the amount of childcare and housework she does, but she is happy with what her spouse is doing and they are both happy with the arrangements for housework and childcare. Furthermore, in the dual-earner couples, the husband's perceptions of his own share of housework and childcare do not discriminate between couples who are satisfied with their marriages and those who are not. However, the wife's perceptions of his share of these matters is crucial and is more important than his perceptions of her share of childcare and housework.

The housewife group presents quite a different picture. In the first place we found two not one significant pattern and second, in

neither pattern were both spouses highly satisfied with the marriage. The first pattern, which accounts for 24 percent of the variance in the couples' marital satisfaction is dominated by his marital satisfaction (.91). Her marital satisfaction is much less important (.43). The second pattern is dominated by her marital satisfaction (.90). His satisfaction does not really contribute in a positive or negative way to this pattern (.18).

The first pattern in the housewives' group shows the following characteristics: husband perceives his wife as doing her fair share of housework and childcare. His satisfaction with current childcare and housework arrangements and her satisfaction with housework arrangements contribute to a lessor extent to this pattern. Thus in the first pattern in the housewife couples we see that his marital satisfaction is correlated with a very stereotypic perception: she is doing most of the family work and he acknowledges that. As long as she accepts this situation, he is particularly satisfied with the marriage. Satisfaction with present arrangements is not as important as in the dual worker group.

The second pattern among the housewife couples, which is dominated by the housewife's high level of marital satisfaction, shows the following characteristics: he perceives her as not contributing her fair share of housework and particularly childcare. She agrees with him and perceives herself as doing less than her fair share of housework and childcare and that he is doing his share of housework and childcare. However, she is satisfied with housework and particularly childcare arrangements. His satisfaction with childcare contributes a little to this pattern, but his feelings about housework

arrangements not at all. The implication in this couples' pattern is that he would like her to increase her housework and childcare share and it is possible that the fact that she is not doing her fair share is related to his lower level of marital satisfaction.

#### Discussion

At the individual level for the most part, our hypothesis was confirmed, marital satisfaction is related to satisfaction with housework and childcare arrangements and the perceptions that one's spouse is doing his/her share of housework and childcare. The third part of our hypothesis was disconfirmed in two respects. Marital satisfaction is unrelated to men's perceptions that they are doing their own share of housework and/or childcare. Marital satisfaction is negatively related to perceptions of doing own share of housework (housewives) and negatively related to perceptions of doing own share of childcare (employed wives). These data suggest that contrary to our hypothesis, women who are happily married perceive themselves as doing less than their share of housework and/or childcare. It seems like the dynamic for happily married women is the following: the fact that I don't contribute my fair share of family work but you are willing to tolerate it and/or pick up my slack, makes me more satisfied with the marriage.

The perceptions of satisfied employed women that they are not doing their fair share of housework and particularly childcare even though their husbands do not perceive this to be true may be due to the fact that they still use housewives as a reference group for these traditional roles (Yogev, 1982b). These employed women are satisfied

with their marriages because they have worked out an equitable arrangement of sharing the housework and childcare with their husbands. Their husbands are also satisfied with the marriage, in part because they too perceive the arrangement as equitable.

The most straight forward explanation of the finding that housewives who are highly satisfied with their marriages, perceive that they are not doing their fair share of housework and childcare, is that they are not doing their fair share. Their husbands certainly do not think so. Yet, these women's marital satisfaction is similar to that of the employed women's marital satisfaction in that both groups perceive their husbands as doing their fair share of housework and childcare.

Our hypothesis at the couples level was confirmed. There were significant patterns of relationships between satisfaction with and perceptions of the distribution of housework and childcare and marital satisfaction for both employed and housewife couples. Among the employed couples the dominant pattern was both couples satisfied or both dissatisfied with the marriage. Among the housewife couples, two orthogonal patterns emerged, one dominated by his marital satisfaction the other by hers.

The couples analysis provides us with different insights into the dynamics of family life than we would see by simple analysis at the individual level. The dual earner couples show more integration of work and family and more mutuality as can be indicated by having more significant cross correlations between husbands and wives. The greater integration and cross prediction of feelings among the dual-earner couples than housewife couples suggests that when both

spouses take work and family roles and when each spouse is fulfilling the expectations the other spouse has about him/her, the marital relationship is strengthened. On the other hand, among the housewife couples, where there is less mutuality in satisfaction and more segregation of perceptions than among dual-earner couples, marital satisfaction is also less mutual.

In sum, at both the individual and couples level of analysis satisfaction with and perceptions of an equitable distribution of housework and childcare predict marital satisfaction. None of the traditional variables: income, family stage, wife's employement status, sex predicted marital satisfaction.

Perceiving one's spouse as doing his/her share of housework and/or childcare and even more than his/her share is a very important element for men and women in both the dual-earner and the housewife couples. These variables show consistent patterns of correlations in all four subject groups (Table 4). Thus, when spouses perceive each other as doing his/her share or more of housework and/or childcare, they are more likely to be happily married than when one spouse perceives the other as not contributing a fair share. For example, in the second canonical pattern, husbands of housewives perceived their wives doing less than their share of housework and childcare, and only the wives were satisfied with the marriage.

We do not mean to imply causality about the relationships between perceptions of the distribution of housework and childcare and marital satisfaction. It is possible that working successfully as a team with regard to housework and childcare contributes to a couple's marital satisfaction, or the opposite phenomenon, mutual marital satisfaction,

may make it easier to communicate and create an efficient and satisfying arrangement for childcare and housework.

Whichever the causal direction, the important result of this study is its demonstration of relationships between perceptions of the distribution of housework and childcare and marital satisfaction in all groups at both the individual and couples levels of analysis.

Furthermore, even though our study focused only on people in middle family stages, i.e. children under 18 living at home, we have reason to believe that the strong relationship between marital satisfaction and the perception of the distribution of family work will exist also in other family stages. Hill & Dorfman (1982), who studied reactions of housewives to the retirement of their husbands, found the most consistent correlate of wife's satisfaction with marriage to be husband's participation in housework tasks.

There are no objective measures of share of housework and childcare in this study. We do not know how in reality—the number of hours or the number of chores are divided between husbands and wives. From past research we can assume that when the woman is working she still carries a disproportionate share of family work (Weingarten 1978, Pleck 1979). Thus it is quite likely "her share" will be actually greater than "his share". Similarly, we do not know whether husbands of housewives are actually doing less family work than husbands of employeed women. The important finding of this study is that the psychological sense of equity in family work predicts marital satisfaction. As long as the subjective perception is equitable, i.e. each perceives that the other contributes what he/she is supposed to—marital satisfaction will be maintained and enhanced. We suspect,

had we been able to measure actual share in terms of hours or number of chores, that the correlations between these objective measures and marital satisfaction would not be nearly as strong as the correlations found here. There are two reasons for this prediction. First, to some extent our results capitalize on common method variance between two response variables. Second and most important, we think it is not what one's spouse does or does not do with respect to housework and childcare, but how the spouse's behavior is interpreted, i.e. she/he is not doing his/her fair share, which is important for marital satisfaction.

Oakley (1980) comments that the study of household labor has expanded over the last five years but, "there has been too much emphasis on the theoretical role of housework in the Marxist schema, and too little in the way of empirical work exposing attitudes, perceptions and satisfaction... Moreover, the extent to which the study of housework has been integrated with the main concerns of sociology and other disiciplines has been disappointing..(p. 12)". This study was successful in integrating housework with marital satisfaction and exposing a crucial element of this relationship, i.e. the perception which distinguishes between spouses who are satisfied with marriage and those who are not is that the other spouse is doing his/her share of family work. Another important conclusion to bear in mind is that the psychlogical meaning of family work and the subjective degree of equity in family arrangements, should be the focus of research (particularly as marital satisfaction is concerned), as well as the proportional and absolute time and task data.

TABLE 1

Correlation between Marital Satisfaction and Independent

Variables for the Total Sample, Husbands of Working Women,

Working Women, Husbands of Housewives, Housewives

	Total sample	Husbands of working women	Working women	Husbands of housewives	Housewives
Family Stage	02	.09	07	.02	07
Sex	09	-	11_		-
Wife Employed	.08	-	-	-	_
Family Income	01	.06	.02	11	06
Satisfaction/childcare	.29**	.35**	.30**	.18	.17
Satisfaction/housework	.33**	.34**	.34**	.20*	.25**
Perception Self/Childcare	20	.03	<b></b> 35**	16	14
Perception Self/Housework	<del>-</del> ,.15	08	14	13	28**
Perception Spouse/Childcare	e .28**	.11	.44**	.19*	.26**
Perception Spouse/Housework	32 <sup>**</sup>	.21**	.41**	.25**	.12

<sup>\*</sup> p**∠**05 level of significance

<sup>\*\*</sup> p $\underline{\checkmark}.01$  level of significance

Step-wise Multiple Regressions
Predicting Marital Satisfaction

TABLE 2

Group	Step No. a	F	p	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>
Total Sample	1	.81	NS	.01
(N=354)	2	8.88	.01	.12
	3	9.34	.01	.19
Men, employed	1	.60	NS	0
wives	2	7.05	.01	.16
(N=131)	3	4.02	.01	.16
Employed	1	.34	NS	0
wives	2	4.82	.01	.11
(N=126)	3	6.33	.01	.25
Men, house-	1	.62	NS	.00
wives	2	1.56	NS	.02
(N=97)	3	2.38	.05	.10
Housewives	1	.31	NS	0
(N=88)	2	1.76	NS	.03
	3	2.21	.05	.10

a variables entered in Step 1: family stage, sex, employed wife, family income; step 2: satisfaction with housework and satisfaction with childcare arrangement; step 3: perceptions of own and spouse's behavior regarding housework and childcare sharing.

Beta Weight for Step-wise Multiple Regressions

Predicting Marital Satisfaction

TABLE 3

	<u>Total</u>	Men employed wives	Employed wives	Men housewives	Housewives
Family Stage	.24	.50	16	.30	41
Sex	.72	_	-	·	_
Wife Employed	36	-	·	-	-
Family Income	01	01	03	25	16
Satisfaction/Childcare	1.08**	1.37**	31	1.16	13
Satisfaction/Housework	.92**	1.08*	1.07*	.70	1.08
Perception Self/Childcare	-1.49**	32	-2.14*	-1.76	09
Perception Self/Housework	1.02*	.50	1.67*	.87	<b>-</b> 2.53 <sup>*</sup>
Perception Spouse/Childcare	.34	24	1.65	18	2.62**
Perception Spouse/Housework	1.80**	1.43	2.76**	1.83*	-1.91

<sup>\* .05</sup> level of significance

<sup>\*\* .01</sup> level of significance

Correlations between Husbands and Wives Marital Satisfaction,
Satisfaction with Housework and Childcare Arrangements and
Perceptions of Equity for Dual-Earner and Housewife Couples

		Dual-earner	Couples	Housewife	couples
		husbands		husbands	wives
Men					
Sat	tisfaction with childcare	.33**	.29**	.18*	.18*
Sat	tisfaction with housework	.36**	.27**	.20*	
Per	rceptions of own share of				
C	childcare				
Per	rception of own share of	14*			
1	housework				
Per	rception of spouse's share				
C	of childcare			.19*	
Per	rception of spouses share				
C	of housework	.28**	.16*	.30**	
	+8				
Women					
Sat	tisfaction with childcare	.20**	.31**		.36**
Sat	tisfaction with housework	.25**	.36**	.18*	.28**
Per	rception of own share of	20**	34**		
(	childcare				
Pe	rception of own share of		14*	19*	25**
1	housework				
Per	rception of spouse's share	.31**	.43**		.27**
C	of childcare				
Per	rception of spouse's share	.32**	.39**		.16*
C	of housework				

<sup>\*</sup> p4.05

<sup>\*\*</sup> p<u><</u>.01

Structure Correlations, Univariate F Tests; Step F Tests for Canonical Analysis of Employed and Housewife

Couples, Marital Satsifaction and Independent Variables

Table 5

	Employed Couples			Housewife Couples			
	Structure	Univariate	Step	Struc		Univariate	Ste
Independent Variables	Correlation3	F	F	Corre	lations	F	_F
Family Stage	.06	NS	NS	.06	28	NS	NS
Family Income	01	NS	NS	14	04	NS	NS
His perception of own share of childcare	.00	NS	NS	26	.05	NS	NS
Her perception of own share of childcare	44	.01	.01	.02	44	NS	.05
His perception of own share of housework	18	NS	.05	24	.10	NS	NS
Her perception of own share of housework	14	NS	NS	25	42	.05	.05
His satisfaction with childcare	.47	.01	.01	.25	.23	NS	.05
Her staisfaction with childcare	.40	.01	.05	02	.80	.01	.01
His satisfaction with housework	.45	.01	NS	.31	04	NS	.05
Her satisfaction with housework	.49	.01	.05	.22	.48	.05	NS
His perception of spouse's share of childcare	.21	NS	.01	.36	47	.01	.05
Her perception of spouse's share of childcare	.57	.01	NS	.16	•54	.05	NS
His perception of spouse's share of housework	.35	.01	NS	.50	19	.01	.01
Her perception of spouse's share of housework	.54	.01	.05	.11	.32	NS	NS
Dependent Variables	(*)			•			
His Marital Satisfaction	.92			.98	.18		
Her Marital Satisfaction	.96			.43	.90		
Canonical Correlation .	.66					.64	
Variance Explained in	38%			24%	11%	35%	
Dependent Variables							

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